

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

This is the Community Preservation Committee's (CPC) third annual report to the Town.

The residents of Wellesley enacted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in November 2002. The committee consists of nine members. One appointed by and from each of the following Boards: the Housing Authority, Recreation Commission, Natural Resources Commission, Historical Commission and Planning Board, and four members appointed by the Moderator. The CPC is required to study the "needs, possibilities and resources" for community preservation in Wellesley. It is also responsible for making recommendations to Town Meeting for the use of Community Preservation funds.

Community Preservation funds originate from two sources: a one percent surcharge on the local property tax bills and from State matching funds. For the year ending June 30, 2006, the Town raised \$637,700.00 through the surcharge. It is expected that there will be an approximately 100% match from the Commonwealth in October, 2006.

The CPA requires that at least 10 percent (a total of not less than 30%) of each year's total funding be spent or reserved for each of the CPA's three main purposes: open space, historic resources, and community housing. CPA funds that are not expended in one year may be "banked" or carried over to subsequent years. However, once CPA funds are banked for a specific purpose, they must ultimately be used for the purpose for which they were banked. At the Town's discretion, the remaining 70 percent of CPA funds in each fiscal year are available to be appropriated or banked for one or more of four purposes: the three listed above, as well as for recreational uses. In addition, subject to certain restrictions, five percent of the CPA funds raised annually may be used for administrative activities related to the work of the CPC.

The CPC, with the help of many Town boards, prepared the first "Town of Wellesley Community Preservation Plan" in June of 2002, with the expectation that it would be updated periodically. The Plan was reviewed and revised in June of 2005, and can be found on the CPC webpage at www.wellesleyma.gov/Pages/WellesleyMA_CPC/index. The Plan gives a summary of the Town's community preservation goals, as well as setting out the resources, needs and possibilities for open space, historical resources, housing and recreation within the Town. Overarching and area specific preservation goals, which the CPC used in its project review and decision making process, are also set forth.

This year the CPC recommended five proposals, totaling \$460,000, for Town Meeting's approval. The third round of appropriations was made at the 2006 Annual Town Meeting as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Housing	Grant to the Wellesley Housing Authority for consultant services to determine the cost of capital repairs at Waldo Court, identify cost of construction at Barton Road, and identify private funding sources for the 2 projects. If feasible, prepare a financing and development plan. *Goal: to advance these projects on the state's priority list	\$25,000
Housing	Grant to Wellesley Housing Development Corp. to be used for affordable housing purposes.	\$125,000
Housing	Grant to the Wellesley Housing Development Corporation for consulting services to develop a monitoring system for the Town's affordable housing stock.	\$10,500
Open Space	Grant to the Department of Public Works for the purchase of a weed harvester.	\$250,000
Administrative	Grant to Community Preservation Committee for administrative support, studies, etc.	\$50,000
Total		\$460,500

In conclusion, we wish to thank the proponents who participated in the process this year and to thank the Town for its foresight in enacting the CPA.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah J. Norwood, Chair
 Lois C. Sullivan, Vice Chair
 David Dinwoodey, Secretary
 Ed Chazen
 James P. Conlin
 Joan E. Gaughan
 Katherine K. Macdonald
 Helen Robertson
 John G. Schuler